

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

[97] A three-tiered data caching system is used on a distributed computer system comprising hosts connected by a network. The lowest tier comprises management facade software running on each machine that converts a platform-dependent interface written with low-level kernel routines that actually implement the data caching system to platform-independent method calls. The middle tier is a set of federated Java beans that communicate with each other, with the management facades and with the upper tier of the system. The upper tier of the inventive system comprises presentation programs that can be directly manipulated by management personnel to view and control the system. In one embodiment, the federated Java beans can run on any machine in the system and communicate, via the network. A data caching management facade runs on selected hosts and at least one data caching bean also runs on those hosts. The data caching bean communicates directly with a management GUI or CLI and is controlled by user commands generated by the GUI or CLI. Therefore, a manager can configure and control the data caching system from a single location.